

# **North Cumberland Fire District**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**September 26, 2007**

**Present:    Absent:**

**Edward LeBlanc, Chairman**

**John Aharonian**

**Robert Audette**

**Joseph Baglini**

**Paul Lindquist    Brian Campbell**

**Matthew Gannon**

**Robert J. Murray**

**Others Present:**

**Rene Gendreau, Chief**

**Fay Dakake, Clerk**

**Martin Klara, Tax Collector**

**Daniel Hamel, Treasurer**

## **Opening**

**The regular meeting of the North Cumberland Fire District (NCFD) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, by Chairman Edward LeBlanc.**

## **A. Approval of Minutes**

**Chief Gendreau noted that when making a deposit at Freedom Bank for the account to remain active, he was told only a withdrawal would constitute activity. His report notes a transfer of \$1.00 from Freedom Bank to Citizens Bank to create acceptable activity.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Lindquist, seconded by Mr. Baglini, to accept the Clerk's Report of August 15, 2007 as written. All in favor. So voted.**

### **B. Treasurer's Report**

**Treasurer Hamel submitted his report dated September 19, 2007 which included:**

- Financial Summary August 2007**
- Tax Collections August 31, 2007**
- Cash Flow Forecast, Fiscal Year 2007-2008**
- Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison As of August 31, 2007**
- Profit & Loss August 2007**
- Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison, July through August 2007**
- Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual, July through August 2007**

**Treasurer Hamel explained account number 6030 on the Financial Summary. A grant was received in the amount of \$72,321.00, a check was written to American Fire Equipment in the amount of \$55,708.00, and the balance of the grant (\$16,613.00) was placed in the Grant Escrow Account.**

**The comment on Account 6250 was explained as reimbursement for medication not covered by Blue Cross/Blue Shield for former Chief Jesse Carpenter. A past agreement was made to cover these expenses due to a work related injury. Mr. Baglini requested to review the agreement.**

**Treasurer Hamel noted that the 1st two columns (July and August) of the Cash Flow Forecast are actual, September through June are projected and will be updated accordingly.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Baglini, seconded by Mr. Audette, to accept the Treasurer's Report dated September 19, 2007 as written. All in favor. So voted.**

### **C. Tax Collector's Report**

**Tax Collector Klara submitted his report dated September, 2007. He noted the tremendous amount of phone calls and checks (\$350,000. so far this month) he has been receiving since the tax bills were mailed. Mr. Baglini suggested that the Board look at the amount of interest being lost while waiting for the checks to be processed. Options to process the checks faster were discussed including the possibility of hiring a temporary assistant if warranted.**

**Past due taxes on Billington Farms were discussed.**

**The Chief requested that Tax Collector Klara send the owner of 35**

**Industrial Road a tax bill to be passed along to the tenant.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Baglini, seconded by Mr. Aharonian, to accept the Tax Collector's Report of September, 2007 as written. All in favor. So voted.**

#### **D. Chief's Report**

**Chief Gendreau submitted his report entitled Monthly Report for August 2007 and highlighted the following:**

- 111 calls in the month of August, a decrease of .9% from August 2006**
- Engine 54 rear main seals replaced**
- Department personnel conducted annual hose testing of all hose on apparatus and in reserve. Testing revealed leaks. An order for 1200 feet of 4 inch diameter hose has been placed with C & S.**
- Computer system installed on Truck 5. Private Bernado is currently adding North Attleboro information. Valley Falls is working on their map book. Once completed, it will be added.**
- Upgrade air packs for Cumberland Rescue.**
- Due to conditions at the Cumberland Fest, 12 men were required to provide detail for the fireworks. Two members of the Cumberland Fire District were utilized. It was noted that detail will be provided each night of the upcoming "Haunted Hill" event at Diamond Hill State Park.**

**Chief Gendreau announced he met with other fire districts to collectively purchase a fire extinguisher computerized training system. A \$1,000.00 donation was received from Navagant Credit Union toward the purchase of this system. Chief Gendreau plans to pay for NCFD's portion from the smoke detector account.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Lindquist, to accept the Chief's Monthly Report for August 2007. All in favor.  
So voted.**

**E. Insurance**

**No comment.**

**F. Financial Management, Budget, Taxes**

**No comment.**

**G. Personnel, Labor Relations**

**To be discussed in Executive Session.**

**H. Nominations**

**No comment.**

**I. Building, Grounds, Apparatus, Computer**

**As an architect, Mr. Aharonian shared his comments with the Board regarding the bids submitted (attached) for the new septic system.**

**His concerns included:**

- **Set back lines**
- **Electrical work and supplies need for the system to operate**
- **Vents and manhole covers in the yard. Odor possible.**
- **System set for 1-8 people yet designed for 6 people on site.**
- **Annual cost associated with maintenance program which is required for occupancy.**

**Mr. Aharonian feels Nathan Ray's bid is more complete, outlining some items not included in the drawing. It was decided by the Board that further investigation was needed. A meeting will be arranged with Mr. Aharonian, the Chief, David Garrigan, and Nathan Ray.**

## **J. Public Relations**

**A copy of the article (attached) submitted to the Valley Breeze for Fire Prevention Week by fire marshal, Gary Grenier was distributed.**

## **K. Old Business**

### **Consolidation Committee**

**Mr. Lindquist reported that the Consolidation Committee is still struggling with a tax rate. Legal counsel has been sought with Margaret Hogan, Esq. to explore the possibility of a change in tax rate over time and its legal repercussions.**

**There is the possibility of a meeting on October 11, 2007. The Saturday, October 13, 2007 may be changed.**

#### **Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Business Plan**

**Chairman LeBlanc noted the addition of the determination of assets and the Truck Committee.**

**As Chairman of the Truck Committee, Lt. Emerson reported since it has been 15 years since a new truck had been purchased, the committee first set a mission statement to seek out the latest technology and safety for NCFD. The Committee has test driven several trucks, including Pierce, E1, and Crimson.**

**Committee member Aharonian made it clear that the Committee is presently in an investigative state only. He suggested that grants be taken a look at for this equipment.**

#### **Committee Assignments**

**Chairman LeBlanc noted that although feedback was received from a committee member he was unable to accommodate the request.**

#### **L. New Business**

**No comment**

#### **M. Public Comment**

**No comment**

**Motion was made by Mr. Baglini, seconded by Mr. Lindquist, and  
unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session per RIGL  
42-46-5 (2) at 7:55 p.m..**

**Return to Public Meeting**

**A motion was made by Mr. Baglini, seconded by Mr. Audette, to  
table the union’s grievance until the October meeting awaiting  
clarification from the State Fire Marshal. All in favor. So voted.**

**Adjournment**

**Motion was made by Mr. Audette seconded by Mr. Aharonian and  
unanimously carried to adjourn the public meeting.**

<b>Minutes</b>	<b>submitted</b>	<b>by: Fay</b>	<b>Dakake,</b>
<b>Clerk</b>	_____		
<b>Approved</b>		<b>by: Edward</b>	<b>LeBlanc,</b>
<b>Chairman</b>	_____		